

## REMARKS

This application was originally filed on 21 December 2001 with thirty-one claims, four of which were written in independent form. Claims 19-29 have been allowed.

Claims 30 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for having insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation “of said first and second groups.” Claim 30, from which Claim 31 depends, has been amended to depend from Claim 25 as suggested by the Examiner to overcome this rejection. The applicant thanks the Examiner for both detecting this error and for suggesting the correction.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 8, and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,444,566 to Gale et al. (“Gale”). Claims 1, 5, 6, 8, and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,525,864 to Gee et al. (“Gee”). Claims 3, 4, 10, 12, and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gale in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,285,407 to Gale et al. (“Gale ‘407”).

Claim 1, from which Claims 2-6, 8-10, 12, and 13 depend, has been amended to include the limitation of Claim 7. Claim 7 was objected to for depending upon a rejected base claim, but the Examiner stated Claim 7 would be allowable if re-written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of Claim 7, it is believed Claim 1 is now allowable over the prior art of record and reconsideration of Claim 1 is requested.

Claims 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gale. Claims 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gee. Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gale in view of Gale ‘407.

Claim 14, from which Claims 15-19 depend, has been amended to recite “a means associated with each said at least one deflectable member for selectively connecting said deflectable member to a ground potential.” Claim 16 was objected to for depending upon a rejected base claim, but the Examiner stated Claim 16 would be allowable if re-written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As Claim 14 has been amended to include one of the limitations of Claim 16, it is believed Claim 14 is now allowable over the prior art of record and reconsideration of Claim 14 is requested.

In view of the amendments and the remarks presented herewith, it is believed that the claims currently in the application accord with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112 and are allowable over the prior art of record. Therefore, it is urged that the present claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'C. Brill'.

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